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Member of police here accused of 'conspiracy'

By John Schmeidler
Special to the Sun-Times
CHICAGO — A Chicago police officer is accused of conspiring with Black Panthers to kidnap and murder a Chicago police officer, the federal government charged Monday.

John W. Rockford, 36, a patrolman in the Black Panther's West Side neighborhood, was charged with kidnapping and killing Chicago police Officer John W. "Big John" Edwards, 31, in 1970. Edwards was shot to death from a distance of 100 feet, the government charged.

Rockford was accused of conspiring with Black Panthers to kidnap Edwards and other police officers, the government charged. Rockford was accused of conspiring with Black Panthers to kidnap Edwards and other police officers, the government charged.

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